Valedictory address for 1811.

Valedictory lecture for 1841

Dear gentlemen — we close the studies and labors of the present session of the classes. In reviewing the course of lectures I have delivered, I am conscious of many defects in them. — These have arisen from the difficulty of many of the subjects connected with my professorship, and from the limits assigned to a course of lectures in our University. ~~attention~~ of the facts & opinions I have delivered ~~which I have taught you I can~~ ~~today, I have~~ from this chair, I can truly say I have weighed their importance ~~and~~ and application to ~~your~~ the exercise of the profession of medicine in your hands. ~~I have aimed~~ In doing so, I have considered that I must answer at a much higher tribunal than yours, for every

and however unpleasant this may to the Authors of new opinions in Science, it has obvious uses. It ~~prevents~~ restrains in many instances the propagation of error, and it leads to a more rapid ~~propagation for~~ propagation of truth by interesting unprejudiced persons in its defence. Of this I can speak from experience, for to the able support which my principles have received from the enlightned part of the Students and graduates in this University, I ascribe their more general adoption and prevalence in our Country that I expected when I first promulgated them.

~~ingenious opponents,~~

voluntary error, or deception that should fall from my lips.

I am aware of the obloquy that is attached to all theories ~~in~~ or rather to new theories in medicine, nor am I ~~ignorant of~~ a stranger to the ~~opposition~~ early - and uniform opposition that has been made to the new principles which I have ~~introduced into~~ taught in ~~in~~ this University. ~~It does not become me to say any thing in this~~ They have met with the fate of innovation in every thing, ~~and~~ to the ~~[illegible]~~ with which they have been examined, and the ingenuity with which they have been opposed. I ascribe this more general astonishment & prejudice in our Country than I ~~was~~ expected when I first ~~[illegible]~~ promulgated ~~taught~~ them.

v. suggested those remedies must follow them sooner or later, for their use can be ~~defend~~ justified, and defended by no other System of Medicine. They most of them are all alike opposed by the Systems of Boerhaave Cullen Darwin and Brown. —

Even in this city, where they have ~~thought~~ been ~~op~~ examined with the most zeal, and opposed with the most learning and ingenuity; there is not a sick room that does not bear a willing, or an unwilling testimony in favor of all the ~~[illegible]~~ remedies that were suggested by them. The principles which time, and more extensive experience in the treatment of diseases, ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ the principles I have delivered, be not discouraged in your expectations of truth in the theories of medicine. They exist somewhere. They ~~[illegible]~~ must sooner or later ~~[illegible]~~ awaken the miriads of slumbering facts which have been accumulated by the labor of ages in our profession and connect them together, so as form a perfect system of medicine from them. ~~On this~~ Belief I shall descend to my grave. Did I not cherish it, I would

~~would blush to~~

In the lectures which I have delivered upon the practice of physic, I have frequently omitted ~~to~~ giving you histories of diseases. - These you will find in the following practical books which should compose the ~~germ~~ of every medical library. viz Sydenham, - Pringle, - Cleghorn, - Cullen, Monro, - Hillary, - Huxham, - Vansuiten Lind, Clark - Fothergill, Senac, Alibert & Jackson. As it will be difficult and often impracticable for you to procure all the new books that are published in medicine (two many of which are nothing but compilations) permit me to recommend to you to subscribe for some one ~~of~~ or for all the periodical medical books that are published in New York & in this city. They will not only convey to

V In surveying my Class I am led to reflect with distress upon the loss of two of its members by death, since the day we ~~met~~ first met in this room.

~~I~~ Let us drop a tear of grief over their graves, and of sympathy with their afflicted parents and families; but let us at the same time console ourselves with the reflection of =

N In ~~reviewing the labors~~ surveying my Class for the last time, I cannot help taking it certain that not a single death has occurred among us, since the commencement of the ~~lectures~~ course. = considering our numbers, and the many causes of disease and death to which we have been exposed during the Winter, & the severe indispositions with which some of you have been afflicted = Mr. Ms Thayer from Kentucke, and Mr Davis from Georgia. —

you an account of the contents of Eu-
-ropean publications, but of all the disco-
-veries and improvements in medicine
that are made in our country. ~~feel~~
In reviewing the remarks upon the clinical
cases I have to regret that fewer cases have
occurred than usual in our hospital
to furnish subjects for them. But enough
have occurred to illustrate the principles
I have taught. Of the cases which have
not been cured, or even relieved you will
recollect what I said of hospital patients in
~~our~~ one of our introductory lectures. They
are generally persons who have been worne
down by intemperance, or who have been sent to the
hospital after all the resources of private
practice have been exhausted upon them &
often with an expectation only of ~~living well~~ dying
~~[illegible] dying~~ in comfortable circumstances
& not of being cured.

V it becomes us to be thankful to the Preserver of men for this distinguishing favor. Such an exemption from death in so large a number of persons for four months ~~is too~~ under circumstances ~~the unfavorable~~ so disposed, and so combined to produce it, is contrary to the usual laws of mortality in all countries.

I lament that the number and presence of your studies have prevented ~~or~~ your complying with my wishes to see you at the hours I had devoted to your company twice a week. ~~Your time I have no doubt was more usefully employed~~ I promised myself both pleasure and instruction from it. I have consoled myself for the loss of both by a belief that your time was ~~constantly~~ more usefully employed in ~~attending to the~~ all reviewing and fixing upon your memories the subjects of the different lectures delivered in the University.

O

~~If you have been afflicted~~, it is a matter of ~~congratulation~~ surprise, ~~that none of us have~~ not and contrary to the usual laws of ~~our~~ mortality, that a greater number of deaths have not taken place among us.

I lament Gent: that the number & pressure of ~~my engagements~~ your studies, have prevented ~~my accompanying~~ that intercourse with you, that I wished, and from which I am sure I should have derived ~~a~~ both pleasure & instruction. O Difficult and oppressive as my ~~a~~ labors have been during the winter, I close them with regret. Never have I ~~sat down in this chair~~ entered that door since the first week in November, without pleasure until this day. Accept of my thanks for the respectful attention and punctuality with which you have been pleased to honour these lectures. With the most

cordial wishes for your prosperity and happiness, I commend you to the pro-
-tection of Heaven, and thus ~~cordially~~
Affectionately bid you Farewell. —